

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5915
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 4 WARSAW 5516

EO 11652GDS
TAGS: PDIP PINT PGOV SHUM PARM PL US UR
SUBJ: AMBASSADORIAL CALL ON NEW VICE FOREIGN MINISTER

1. SUMMARY: IN A WIDE-RANGING CONVERSATION JUNE 28 WITH NEWLY-APPOINTED VICE FOREIGN MINISTER DOBROSIELSKI, I EMPHASIZED THAT UNRESOLVED FREEDOM OF TRAVEL AND DIVIDED FAMILIES ISSUES CONTINUE TO CLOUD US-POLISH BILATERAL RELATIONS WHICH OTHERWISE ARE GENERALLY GOOD. DOBROSIELSKI MAY HAVE HINTED AT GREATER GOP RESPONSIVENESS IN SAYING THE POLES WANTED TO DEAL WITH THESE PROBLEMS CASE-BY-CASE AND WITHOUT PUBLIC POLEMICS. HE INDICATED THAT POLISH SENSITIVITIES WERE RUBBED BY THE PRESIDENT'S RECENT REPORT ON CSCE COMPLIANCE. ON MULTIALTERAL MATTERS DOBROSIELSKI STRESSED POLAND'S FUNDAMENTAL INTEREST IN DETENTE AND SAID THE GOP ACCORDINGLY WAS DISTURBED BY RECENT TRENDS IN US-USSR RELATIONS BUT ENCOURAGED BY PRESIDENT CARTER'S AND SECRETARY VANCE'S LATEST STATEMENTS. HE SAID DETENTE ALLOWED POLAND TO PLAY A ROLE AS A CONDUIT BETWEEN EAST AND WEST. I SAID WE APPRECIATED THAT ROLE AS LONG AS THE CONDUIT WAS IN BOTH DIRECTIONS. I ALSO INDICATED THAT OUR TENSIONS WITH MOSCOW ON

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OTHER ISSUES DID NOT DETER US FROM PURSUING AGREEMENT ON CRITICALLY IMPORTANT ARMS CONTROL PROBLEMS HEADED BY SALT. END SUMMARY.

2. I CALLED JUNE 28 AT MY REQUEST ON MARIAN DOBROSIELSKI, THE NEWLY-APPOINTED VICE FOREIGN MINISTER WHO HAS ASSUMED RESPONSIBILITY AT THAT LEVEL FOR POLISH-US

RELATIONS. (DOBROSIELSKI, WHO HAS BEEN DIRECTOR OF THE POLISH INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS FOR OVER SIX YEARS, TOLD ME HE HAS NOT YET RELINQUISHED HIS POSITION THERE BUT IS PHASING OUT.) DIRECTOR SZEWCZYK OF MFA DEPARTMENT III WAS ALSO PRESENT. OUR CONVERSATION TOOK THE FORM OF A TOUR D'HORIZON OF MAIN BILATERAL ISSUES BETWEEN THE US AND POLAND WITH SOME ATTENTION TO MAJOR INTERNATIONAL PROBLEMS, ESPECIALLY THOSE INVOLVING US-USSR RELATIONS.

3. I BEGUN WITH AN APPRAISAL OF US-POLISH BILATERAL RELATIONS, CHARACTERIZING THEM AS GENERALLY GOOD BUT WITH SEVERAL PERSISTENT PROBLEM AREAS. AMONG THE MOST FAVORABLE ELEMENTS OF OUR RELATIONS, I SAID, IS THE SCIENTIFIC/TECHNICAL COOPERATION WHICH WE CONSIDER VERY BENEFICIAL TO BOTH COUNTRIES. NOTING THAT THE PRESENT AGREEMENT ON SUCH COOPERATION RUNS OUT IN 1981, I SAID IT IS NOT TOO EARLY TO START WORK ON NEW ARRANGEMENTS. EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL EXCHANGES, BOTH GOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE, CONSTITUTE ANOTHER AREA OF MUTUAL BENEFIT WHERE WE HAVE STRONG PROGRAMS; WE WOULD LIKE TO SEE SUCH EXCHANGES EXPANDED STILL FURTHER. WE ALSO SAW GREAT USEFULNESS IN CONTINUING THE EXCHANGE OF HIGH LEVEL VISITS, HIGHLIGHTED DURING THE PAST YEAR BY PRESIDENT CARTER'S TRIP TO POLAND AND FURTHERED MOST RECENTLY BY SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE

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BERGLAND'S VISIT WHICH WE CONSIDERED VERY SUCCESSFUL. IN THIS CONNECTION, WE REGRETTED THE POSTPONEMENT OF HEW SECRETARY CALIFANO'S PLANNED VISIT IN JUNE, FOR REASONS WHICH HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH POLAND; WE HOPED THE VISIT COULD BE RESCHEDULED FOR THIS FALL, PARTICULARLY IN VIEW OF THE IMPORTATN EXCHANGE PROGRAMS BETWEEN HEW AND THE POLISH MINISTRY OF HEALTH.

4. ON ECONOMIC/COMMERCIAL RELATIONS, I NOTED THE PROSPECTIVE POLISH NEED FOR GRAIN IN COMING YEARS AND SAID THE US WANTS TO BE A RELIABLE SUPPLIER. LEGISLATION ON LONG-TERM GRAIN CREDITS, IN WHICH THE GOP WAS ESPECIALLY INTERESTED, WAS NOW IN CONGRESSIONAL HANDS AND THE OUTCOME OF THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS WAS UNPREDICTABLE. IN ANY CASE, I THOUGHT, NOTHING WAS LIEKLY TO EMERGE FROM CONGRESS BEFORE AUTUMN. REGARDING TRADE AND COMMERCE, I SAID WE UNDERSTOOD THAT POLAND'S NEED TO CUT ITS IMPORTS UNDERLAY THE RECENT SLOWDOWN IN US-POLISH TRADE. HOWEVER, WE WERE ADVISING US BUSINESSMEN THAT THEY SHOULD STAY ALERT TO LONGER-TERM POSSIBILITIES HERE, AND THE EXTENSIVE PARTICIPATION BY US FIRMS IN THE

JUST-CONCLUDED POZNAN TRADE FAIR SHOWED THAT AMERICAN
BUSINESS CONTINUES TO BE INTERESTED IN POLAND.

5. TURNING TO PROBLEM AREAS IN BILATERAL RELATIONS,
I OBSERVED THAT OUR LIST IS STILL HEADED BY ISSUES
OF FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT AND DIVIDED FAMILIES. WE
HAD WELCOME THE RESOLUTION OF SOME DIVIDED FAMILY
CASES, ESPECIALLY THAT OF MACIEJ BIEGUNSKI WHICH WAS
ONE OF THE THREE RAISED BY SECRETARY VANCE WITH FOREIGN
MINISTER WOJTASZEK DURING PRESIDENT CARTER'S VISIT.
WE CONTINUED TO HOPE FOR PROGRESS ON THE REMAINING
TWO SUCH CASES (MARIA KOTLARZ AND JERZY STROJEK)
OF SPECIAL INTEREST TO US, AS WELL AS THE NUMEROUS
OTHER DIVIDED FAMILY CASES THAT HAD BEEN REPRESENTED
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6. ON ANOTHER MATTER INVOLVING FREEDOM TO TRAVEL,
WE HOPED TO SEE MOVEMENT ON THREE CASES IN WHICH
POLISH PASSPORTS HAD BEEN WITHHELD FROM PERSONS INVITED
TO THE US, ONE OFFICIALLY TO TAKE PART IN THE INTERNATIONAL
VISITORS PROGRAM (TADUESZ MAZOWIECKI) AND TWO PRIVATELY
TO JOIN DISTINGUISHED US UNIVERSITIES (STANISLAW
BARANCZAK AND BARBARA TORUNCZYK). WE SUPPORTED ALL

THREE INVITATIONS IN KEEPING WITH OUR OBJECTIVE --
WHICH WE THOUGHT ALSO WAS IN THE GOP'S INTEREST--
OF ENABLING REPRESENTATIVE OF A BROAD CROSS SECTION
OF POLISH SOCIETY TO TRAVEL TO THE US. THERE WAS
HIGH LEVEL AMERICAN INTEREST, BOTH OFFICIAL AND UNOFFICIAL,
IN ALL THREE OF THESE CASES, AND CONTINUED GOP DENIAL
OF PASSPORTS TO THE PERSONS INVOLVED WOULD BE CERTAIN
TO BRING A STRONG ADVERSE REACTION FROM IMPORTANT
PEOPLE IN THE USG AS WELL AS ACADEMIA AND POLONIA.

7. NEGATIVE REACTIONS IN CONGRESS AND THE PUBLIC
WOULD ALSO BE AROUSED, I CONTINUED, IF THERE WERE
NOT IMPROVED GOP PERFORMANCE IN ISSUING VISAS TO
EX-POLES SEEKING TO TRAVEL TO POLAND FOR SHORT FAMILY
REUNIFICATIONS. WE CONTINUED TO BE DISTURBED BY
AN APPARENT PATTERN OF VISA DENIALS IN SUCH CASES,
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WHICH TYPICALLY CONCERNED PERSONS WHO WISHED TO VISIT
AGING AND ILL RELATIVES WHOM THEY HAD NOT SEEN FOR
MANY YEARS, AND, WE HAD OBSERVED WITH SPECIAL CONCERN,
INVOLVED A HIGH PROPORTION OF PERSONS OF JEWISH
BACKGROUND. IN VIEW OF PRESIDENT CARTER'S UNFLAGGING
CONCERN OVER HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES, I SUMMED UP, NONE
OF THESE FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT CASES WOULD JUST GO
AWAY, AND WE WOULD CONTINUE TO PRESS THEM UNTIL THEY
WERE SATISFACTORILY RESOLVED.

8. TO CONCLUDE MY PRESENTATION ON BILATERAL PROBLEM
AREAS I BROUGHT UP TWO MATTERS WHICH I ACKNOWLEDGED
WERE NOT WITHIN DOBROSIELSKI'S DIRECT AREA OF COMPETENCE
BUT ON WHICH WE WOULD APPRECIATE ANY HELP HE MIGHT
PROVIDE. BOTH PROBLEMS, I NOTED, WERE PROBABLY
ACCENTUATED BY THE ADVENT OF THE PEAK TOURIST SEASON.
THE FIRST INVOLVED PERSONS WHO WERE US CITIZENS UNDER
US LAW BUT STILL REGARDED AS POLISH CITIZENS UNDER
POLISH LAW BECAUSE THEY HAD NOT COMPLETED THE LENGTHY
PROCEDURES REQUIRED FOR FORMAL RENUNCIATION OF THEIR
PREVIOUS POLISH CITIZENSHIP. FREQUENTLY, SUCH PERSONS
ACCEPTED POLISH CONSULAR PASSPORTS RATHER THAN WAITING
FOR ISSUEANCE OF A POLISH VISA IN A US PASSPORT AFTER
COMPLETING THE RENUNCIATION PROCESS. WHEN TRAVELLING
ON A CONSULAR PASSPORT THEY WERE NOT COVERED UNDER THE
1972 US-POLISH CONSULAR CONVENTION AND HENCE NOT
ENTITLED TO BENEFIT FROM US CONSULAR SERVICES, INCLUDING
PROTECTIVE ONES, AVAILABLE TO OTHER US CITIZENS.
WE HOPED IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE TO SIMPLIFY AND SPEED
UP THE RENUNCIATION PROCEDURES AND THUS REDUCE THE
INCENTIVE TO ACCEPT THE CONSULAR PASSPORT.

9. THE SECOND PROBLEM CONCERNED POLISH CUSTOMS TREATMENT

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OF TRAVELLERS DEPARTING POLAND. WE HAD RECEIVED VARIOUS COMPLAINTS, STARTING WITH THE GENERAL ONE OF DISCOURTESY AND CONTEMPTUOUS ATTITUDES ON THE PART OF POLISH CUSTOMS OFFICIALS. OF THE MORE SPECIFIC COMPLAINTS, TWO SEEMED PARTICULARLY COGENT. ONE INVOLVED CONFISCATION OF PERSONAL ITEMS, ESPECIALLY HEIRLOOMS, BROUGHT FROM THE US INTO POLAND BUT UNDECLARED UPON ENTRY THROUGH IGNORANCE OF THE RULE AGAINST TAKING CERTAIN ARTICLES OUT THAT WERE MANUFACTURED BEFORE 1945. THE OTHER CONCERNED OVERLY STRICT PERSONAL SEARCHES, IN SOME INSTANCE INCLUDING STRIPPING. I SAID WE WOULD DO ANYTHING WE COULD TO HELP RESOLVE THESE PROBLEMS, BUT WERE ASKING FOR POLISH COOPERATION, INCLUDING BETTER ADVANCE INFORMATION TO TRAVELLERS REGARDING CUSTOMS REGULATIONS. (COMMENT: NEITHER DOBROSIELSKI NOR SZEWCZYK RESPONDED DIRECTLY TO MY PRESENTATION ON THESE TWO PROBLEMS, BUT BOTH LISTENED ATTENTIVELY AND TOOK NUMEROUS NOTES. END COMMENT.)

10. I THEN TURNED TO MULTILATERAL PROBLEMS, CENTERING UPON US-SOVIET RELATIONS. I SAID I THOUGHT SOME OF THE STING HAD GONE OUT OF THE MOST RECENT EXCHANGES BETWEEN WASHINGTON AND MOSCOW; FOR OUR PART WE HAD CLEARLY INDICATED WE WANTED TO MOVE AHEAD ON MAJOR ISSUES, ESPECIALLY IN THE ARMS CONTROL AREA, SUCH AS SALT, MBFR AND A COMPREHENSIVE TEST BAN. FURTHERMORE, I FELT THAT US PUBLIC OPINION SUPPORTED EFFORTS IN THIS DIRECTION, AND THAT DIFFICULTIES IN OTHER AREAS, EG AFRICA, WOULD NOT DETER US FROM PURSUING THOSE EFFORTS. IN SUM, MY PERSONAL VIEW WAS THAT THE NEW TENSIONS WHICH HAD ARISEN IN RECENT WEEKS WOULD NOT LEAD TO INTERRUPTION OF NEGOTIATIONS ON THE CRITICALLY IMPORTANT ISSUES I HAD MENTIONED.

11. DOBROSIELSKI SAID HE WOULD BEGIN HIS REPLY BY TAKING UP "THE BIG ISSUES". IN THE NAME OF THE FOREIGN
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MINISTER, HE COULD ASSURE ME THAT FIRST PARTY SECRETARY GIEREK, THE PARTY, AND THE GOP WERE UNEQUIVOCALLY AND ABSOLUTELY FOR DETENTE. THERE WAS NO ALTERNATIVE TO PURSUING DETENTE IN SEEKING SOLUTIONS TO THE PROBLEMS THAT FACED MANKIND TODAY. THE POLES, DOBROSIELSKI

CONTINUED, HAD BEEN DISTURBED AND UNHAPPY OVER RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN SOVIET-US RELATIONS; THEY WERE PLEASED, HOWEVER, BY THE LATEST STATEMENTS OF PRESIDENT CARTER AND SECRETARY VANCE. THESE WERE REASSURING AND THE

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POLES "WELCOMED THEM VERY MUCH". GOOD US-USSR RELATIONS WERE IN THE POLISH NATIONAL INTEREST, AND POLAND'S "MODEST POSSIBILITIES" OF PLAYING AN INTERNATIONAL ROLE, ESPECIALLY AS A CONDUIT BETWEEN EAST AND WEST, COULD BE EXPANDED ONLY IN A TIME OF DETENTE. CONVERSELY, TRENDS TOWARD POLARIZATION REDUCED POLISH ABILITY TO MANEUVER TO A MINIMUM. IF THERE WERE POLARIZATION, DOBROSIELSKI ADDED, POLAND WOULD BE ON THE SOVIET SIDE "FOR REASONS OF STATE -- NO MATTER WHAT SOME POLES MAY FEEL".

12. IN ANY EVENT, DOBROSIELSKI SUMMARIZED, POLAND WAS AGAINST SPHERES OF INFLUENCE AND WAS "ABSOLUTELY" FOR ABOLISHING THE DIVISION OF EUROPE INTO MILITARY BLOCS. THE OVERALL POLISH APPROACH WAS TO SEEK COOPERATION, NOT CONFRONTATION, AND TO EMPHASIZE COMMON INTERESTS RATHER THAN DIFFERENCES. ON CONCRETE NEGOTIATIONS, DOBROSIELSKI SAID POLAND HAD "HAD A PART" M THE RECENT EASTERN PROPOSAL ON MBFR AND HOPED "SOME AGREEMENT" COULD BE ATTAINED AT VIENNA. THE GOP ALSO CONSIDERED SALT OF HUGE IMPORTANCE, FAR TRANSCENDING US-SOVIET BILATERAL RELATIONS. IN LIGHT OF THESE POLISH PREDISPOSITIONS, ACCORDING TO DOBROSIELSKI, DR. BRZEZINSKI'S RECENT
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TRIP TO THE PRC HAD RAISED SOME CONCERNS "EVERYWHERE" BECAUSE OF ITS IMPLICATIONS FOR DETENTE AND US-USSR RELATIONS GENERALLY. IF BRZEZINSKI IS ACTUALLY DOING WHAT THE US AND SOVIET PRESS BOTH SAY HE IS DOING, DOBROSIELSKI WENT ON, THE GOP DID NOT THINK IT WAS GOOD FOR POLAND-EVEN THOUGH MOST POLISH OFFICIALS AGREED THAT BRZEZINSKI MEANT WELL TOWARD THE COUNTRY.

13. I SAID WE UNDERSTOOD THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN DETENTE AND POLISH POSSIBILITIES OF MANEUVER. THE PRESIDENT, I RECALLED, HAD INDICATED ON HIS VISIT THAT HE SAW POLAND AS A COMMUNICATIONS CHANNEL TO THE USSR; WE HOPED IT WOULD BE ABLE TO CONTINUE IN THAT ROLE. IN OUR VIEW, THE POLISH "EAST-WEST CONDUIT" SHOULD WORK IN BOTH DIRECTIONS. WITH REGARD TO DR. BRZEZINSKI'S TRIP TO THE PRC, I THOUGHT IT HAD BEEN SOMEWHAT OVEREMPHASIZED. THE TRIP SIMPLY REPRESENTED A STEP IN A LONG-TERM PROCESS OF NORMALIZING OUR RELATIONS WITH THE PRC WITH WHICH, AFTER ALL, WE STILL DID NOT HAVE DIPLOMATIC TIES. IN ANY EVENT, THE US HAD NO INTEREST IN FOSTERING ILL WILL BETWEEN THE CHINESE AND THE SOVIETS WHICH WE CONSIDERED WAS IN NO ONE'S INTEREST.

14. DOBROSIELSKI THEN TOOK UP THE DIVIDED FAMILIES ISSUE, WHICH HE SAID HE HAD DISCUSSED WITH WOJTASZEK. FIRST, HE SAID, THERE ARE OVER 200 MILLION AMERICANS AND 35 MILLION POLES; AGAINST THOSE NUMBERS, THE EXISTING DIVIDED FAMILY CASES DO NOT SEEM SO SIGNIFICANT. NEVERTHELESS, THE GOP WANTS TO EXPEDITE THE SOLUTION OF "CLEAR-CUT AND CONCRETE" EXISTING CASES ON A CASE-BY-CASE BASIS, QUIETLY AND WITHOUT PUBLIC POLEMICS. THE LESS PUBLICITY GIVEN THESE CASES, DOBROSIELSKI

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MAINTAINED, THE EASIER IT WILL BE TO SOLVE THEM. CONVERSELY, GENERAL STATEMENTS ON THE DIVIDED FAMILIES QUESTION BY, EG, THE PRESIDENT OR THE SECRETARY OF STATE MAKE SUCH CASES MORE DIFFICULT.

15. IN THIS CONNECTION, DOBROSIELSKI WENT ON, SPECIAL PROBLEMS WERE RAISED BY THE PRESIDENT'S RECENT REPORT ON FULFILLMENT OF OBLIGATIONS ARISING UNDER THE HELSINKI FINAL ACT. DOBROSIELSKI ASSERTED THAT THE PRESIDENTIAL DOCUMENT WAS "AT VARIANCE WITH THE FACTS" ON A NUMBER

OF POINTS INCLUDING DIVIDED FAMILIES. MOREOVER, NO COMMITMENT UNDERTAKEN AT HELSINKI GAVE ONE SIGNATORY THE RIGHT OF "CONTROL" OVER ANOTHER SIGNATORY'S COMPLIANCE OR NON-COMPLIANCE WITH FINAL ACT PROVISIONS, ALL OF WHICH WERE "VOLUNTARY". THUS, THE GOP DOUBTED THAT A CSCE MONITORING BODY SUCH AS THE FASCELL COMMITTEE WAS LEGITIMATE IN TERMS OF THE FINAL ACT. IN ANY EVENT, THE FACTUAL INACCURACIES IN THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT CONCERNING DIVIDED FAMILIES WOULD INEVITABLY COMPLICATE THE MATTER. GENERAL STATEMENTS ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND CSCE COMPLIANCE, DOBROSIELSKI SUMMED UP, GAVE THE GOP NO PROBLEMS -- THE DIFFICULTIES AROSE FROM SPECIFICS, ESPECIALLY WHEN THESE WERE STATED INACCURATELY. HOWEVER, HE REITERATED, THE POLES WANTED TO SOLVE THE DIVIDED FAMILIES QUESTION, ON WHICH THERE HAD BEEN NO CHANGE IN GOP POLICY SINCE BEFORE PRESIDENT CARTER'S VISIT.

16. I SAID I NEVERTHELESS WAS STRUCK BY THE CONTRAST BETWEEN THE RELATIVELY AFFIRMATIVE GOP TREATMENT OF DIVIDED FAMILY CASES IN THE PERIOD JUST BEFORE THE VISIT AND THE PROLONGED SLUMP IN RESOLVED CASES THEREAFTER. AS FOR DISCREPANCIES IN POLISH AND AMERICAN INTERPRETATION OF FIGURES ON OUTSTANDING DIVIDED FAMILY CASES, WE HAD WARNED THE GOP THAT THIS WAS LIKELY UNLESS WE FOUND A WAY TO COORDINATE OUR WORK ON SUCH CASES, EG, CONFIDENTIAL

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THROUGH A WORKING LEVEL ARRANGEMENT BETWEEN THE EMBASSY AND THE MFA AS WE HAD EARLIER SUGGESTED. WITH THIS IN MIND, WE FOUND SOME ENCOURAGEMENT IN DOBROSIELSKI'S INDICATION OF WILLINGNESS TO WORK TOWARD SOLUTIONS ON A CASE-BY-CASE BASIS.

17. DOBROSIELSKI AND SZEWCZYK THEN BROUGHT UP A COMMUNICATION FROM A POLONIA ORGANIZATION, THE POLISH-AMERICAN CONGRESS, ADDRESSED TO MEMBERS OF THE US CONGRESS AND STATING THEY SHOULD TAKE ACCOUNT OF "CHANGES IN THE POLISH INTERNAL SITUATION" IN CONSIDERING

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US POLICY TOWARD POLAND. THE STATEMENT GAVE CONCERN, THEY SAID, BECAUSE A NUMBER OF INFLUENTIAL CONGRESSIONAL FIGURES APPARENTLY HAD SUBSCRIBED TO THIS APPROACH, MENTIONING, INTER ALIA, THE GOP POSTURE ON DIVIDED FAMILIES, VISA ISSUANCE, AND DISSIDENTS. SUCH AN APPROACH, DOBROSIELSKI MAINTAINED, WOULD TRIGGER DEFENSIVE REACTION WITHIN THE POLISH PARTY AND GOVERNMENT WHICH ONLY FURTHERED THE AIMS OF HARD-LINERS, AND WOULD LEAD TO RENEWED ALIENATION BETWEEN POLES IN POLAND AND POLONIA ABROAD. IN ANY CASE, HE SAID, POLAND'S MAJOR INTERNAL PROBLEMS WERE ECONOMIC ONES, ON WHICH US HELP WAS NEEDED. THE GOP HOPED FOR SUCH ASSISTANCE ON A "NO STRINGS" BASIS AND IN ANY CASE NOT LINKED TO THE PROBLEM OF DISSIDENCE WHICH WAS SECONDARY IN COMPARISON. FINALLY, HE REPEATED, THE POLES DID NOT WANT POLEMICS OVER DIVIDED FAMILIES AND VISAS. THE GOP COULD RAISE QUESTIONS CONCERNING US POLICY IN CONNECTION WITH CASES WHERE POLES WISHING TO TRAVEL TO THE US FOR TEMPORARY FAMILY REUNIFICATION WERE DENIED VISITOR'S VISAS; HOWEVER, IT WOULD PREFER TO KEEP DIFFERENCES ON SUCH MATTERS OUT OF PUBLIC DISCUSSION.

18. I SAID I HAD THE IMPRESSION THAT THE CONGRESSMEN
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WERE GENERALLY REFERRING PUBLICLY TO SPECIFIC TRAVEL CASES; IN ANY CASE, WE HAD NO WAY OF STOPPING THEM FROM EXPRESSING THEIR VIEWS. HOWEVER, IF WE COULD GET TOGETHER WITH THE POLISH AUTHORITIES IN SOLVING SUCH SPECIFIC CASES, I THOUGHT ATTITUDES IN THE US WOULD COOL DOWN. WITH REGARD TO US POLONIA, IT DID NOT SPEAK WITH ONE VOICE, AND ON THE WHOLE ITS ATTITUDE TOWARD THE POLISH PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC HAD EVOLVED QUITE FAVORABLY OVER THE PAST 30 YEARS. IT WOULD BE UNFORTUNATE IF GOP ACTIONS LED TO RENEWED ALIENATION.

19. OUR CONVERSATION ENDED BY REFERRING TO HIGH-LEVEL CALLS. I NOTED THAT MY REQUESTS TO BE RECEIVED BY FIRST SECRETARY GIEREK AND PRIME MINISTER JAROSZEWICZ, MADE SHORTLY AFTER I ARRIVED IN POLAND OVER THREE MONTHS AGO AND THE SUBJECT OF REPEATED FOLLOW-UP INQUIRIES BY THE EMBASSY, STILL REMAINED UNFULFILLED. I REITERATED MY INTEREST IN MAKING THESE CALLS, NOTING THAT THERE WAS USG INTEREST AT THE HIGHEST LEVELS IN KEEPING THIS COMMUNICATION CHANNEL OPEN, TO THE FIRST SECRETARY IN PARTICULAR. DOBROSIELSKI TOOK NOTE OF THE REQUEST, MENTIONING THAT THERE MIGHT BE A "PROBLEM OF PUBLICITY" SURROUNDING A CAPE BY ME UPON GIEREK. I SAID THERE WAS NO NEED WHATSOEVER TO PUBLICIZE THE CALL.

20. COMMENT: OUR CONVERSATION, WHICH LASTED OVER AN HOUR AND A HALF, WAS GENERALLY CANDID AND STRAIGHTFORWARD. I THINK WE SHOULD PROBE EXPEDITIOUSLY TO SEE WHETHER DOBROSIELSKI'S LINE ABOUT TAKING UP DIVIDED FAMILY MATTERS ON A CASE-BY-CASE BASIS REFLECTS A NEW WILLINGNESS TO CONSIDER OUT EMBASSY-MFA WORKING GROUP PROPOSAL. THE OBVIOUS GOP SENSITIVITIES ABOUT THE WAY POLAND

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COMES OUT ON THE DIVIDED FAMILIES ISSUE IN THE PRESIDENT'S CSCE REPORT, AND THEIR APPREHENSIONS ABOUT PUBLICITY IN GENERAL ON THIS AND OTHER HUMAN-RIGHTS QUESTIONS, MAY WELL LEAD THEM TO TAKE SUCH AN ATTITUDE. THE POLISH PRE-OCCUPATION WITH DETENTE AND WORRY ABOUT RECENT TRENDS IN US-USSR RELATIONS WERE PREDICTABLE. DOBROSIELSKI'S EXPRESSION OF GRATIFICATION OVER THE RECENT STATEMENTS BY THE PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY AND MY REMARKS ABOUT PRESSING AHEAD ON ARMS CONTROL NEGOTIATIONS SEEMED COMPLETELY GENUINE, PROBABLY REFLECTING A NEAR-CONSENSUS IN THE POLISH HIERARCHY. END COMMENT.

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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2128265
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: AMBASSADORIAL CALL ON NEW VICE FOREIGN MINISTER
TAGS: PDIP, PINT, PGOV, SHUM, PARM, PL, US, UR
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